

S/N unknown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Carlson et al. Examiner: Kang, P.  
Serial No.: unknown Group Art Unit: 2152  
Filed: February 27, 2002 Docket No.: 60001.0109USC2/MS37932.3  
Title: Method for Automatically Implementing Special Forms in an E-Mail System

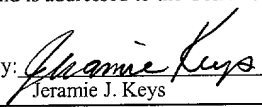
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:   
Jeramie J. Keys

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the application prior to its initial examination.

Deletion of Inventors

Please delete the following inventors pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63(d) and 1.33(b):  
Andrew T. Lytle, Bryan I-chuen Lee, Gay L. Gilmore, David R. Goodhand, Brian W. MacDonald, and William J. Bliss.

In the Title

Please amend the title to --METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY IMPLEMENTING SPECIAL FORMS IN AN E-MAIL SYSTEM--.

In the specification:

Please insert before the "Technical Field" on page 1 the following heading and text:

--Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/019,246 filed on February 5, 1998 titled --METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY IMPLEMENTING SPECIAL FORMS IN AN E-MAIL SYSTEM-- which is a divisional of Application Serial No. 08/658,840 filed on May 31, 1996 titled --SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COMPOSING, PROCESSING, AND ORGANIZING ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGE ITEMS--.

Page 1, line 101 please replace -- SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR COMPOSING, PROCESSING, AND ORGANIZING ELECTRONIC MAIL MESSAGE ITEMS-- with --METHOD FOR AUTOMATICALLY IMPLEMENTING SPECIAL FORMS IN AN E-MAIL SYSTEM--.

In the claims

Please cancel claims 1-45, 50, 56, and 60-79.

Please enter the following replacement claims. A marked up version is included to show the changes made.

46. In an electronic mail system for transmitting an item, said item including a plurality of properties, a computer-implemented method for transmitting custom form data as part of said item, comprising:

obtaining said custom form data, said custom form data including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of said plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer;

storing said custom form data in one of said plurality of properties in response to obtaining said custom form data; and

transmitting said item to said recipient computer.

49. In an electronic mail system for receiving an item, a method for displaying an item comprising:

receiving said item, said item including a plurality of properties;

determining whether said item includes a form property that includes custom form data;

in response to a determination that said message item includes said form property, retrieving said custom form data stored in said form property;

otherwise, retrieving form data from a form registry;

displaying said item by generating a form with a general form generation procedure of said electronic mail system, said form being defined by said form data or said custom form data that includes at least one field and control data values controlling the layout of the at least one field through application of said control data values to the general form generation procedure.

53. A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for transmitting custom form data as part of an item, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform:

adding a form property to said item;

obtaining said custom form data, said custom form data including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of a plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer;

storing said custom form data in said form property in response to obtaining said custom form data;

receiving said field data from said at least one field as input;

storing said field data in said at least one of said plurality of properties;

and

transmitting said item to said recipient computer.

55. A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for displaying an item in the context of a form, said computer program comprising instruction which, when executed by a computer, perform:

receiving said item, said item including a plurality of properties;

determining whether said item includes a form property that includes custom form data;

in response to a determination that said item includes said form property, retrieving said custom form data stored in said form property;

otherwise, retrieving form data from a form registry; and

displaying said item by generating a form with a general form generation procedure of said computer, said form being defined by said form data or said custom form data that includes at least one field and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field through application of said control data values to said general form generation procedure.

59. In an improved item for transmission in an electronic mail system, said item including a plurality of properties, the improvement comprising:

a form property that is included within said plurality of properties, said form property storing form data that includes at least one field for displaying field data and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field;

form data stored in a form property, said form data defining a custom form used to display said item including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of said plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

46. (Amended) In an electronic mail system for transmitting an item, said item including a plurality of properties, a computer-implemented method for transmitting custom form data as part of said item, comprising:

obtaining said custom form data, said custom form data [indicative of the layout of a custom form comprising a plurality of fields] including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of said plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer;

storing said custom form data in one of said plurality of properties in response to obtaining said custom form data; and

transmitting said item to [a] said recipient computer.

49. (Amended) In an electronic mail system for receiving an item, a method for displaying an item comprising:

receiving said item, said item including a plurality of properties;

determining whether said item includes a form property that includes custom form data;

in response to a determination that said message item includes said form property, retrieving said custom form data stored in said form property;

otherwise, retrieving form data from a form registry; [and]

displaying said item [in the context of] by generating a form with a general form generation procedure of said electronic mail system, said form being defined by said form data or said custom form data that includes at least one field and control data values controlling the layout of the at least one field through application of said control data values to the general form generation procedure.

53. (Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for transmitting custom form data as part of an item, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform:

adding a form property to said item;

obtaining said custom form data, said custom form data [indicative of the layout of a custom form comprising a plurality of fields] including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of a plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer;

storing said custom form data in said form property in response to obtaining said custom form data;

receiving said field data from said at least one field as input;

storing said field data in said at least one of said plurality of properties;

and

transmitting said item to [a] said recipient computer.

55. (Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is stored a computer program for displaying an item in the context of a form, said computer program comprising instructions which, when executed by a computer, perform the steps of:

receiving said item, said item including a plurality of properties;

determining whether said item includes a form property that includes custom form data;

in response to a determination that said item includes said form property, retrieving said custom form data stored in said form property;

otherwise, retrieving form data from a form registry; and

displaying said item [in the context of] by generating a form with a general form generation procedure of said computer, said form being defined by said form data or said custom form data that includes at least one field and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field through application of said control data values to said general form generation procedure.

59. (Amended) In an improved item for transmission in an electronic mail system, said item including a plurality of properties, the improvement comprising:

[form data stored in] a form property that is included within said plurality of properties, said [form data defining a custom form used to display said item] form property storing form data that includes at least one field for displaying field data and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field; and

form data stored in a form property, said form data defining a custom form used to display said item including at least one field for displaying field data stored in at least one of said plurality of properties and control data values for controlling the layout of the at least one field upon application of said control data values to a general form generation procedure of a recipient computer.

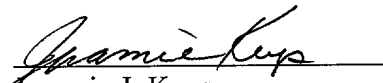
Remarks

Applicants have amended the claims as above for consideration by the Examiner. These claims do not introduce any new matter, and Applicants respectfully request favorable action in passing these claims to allowance. Applicants previously attempted to enter these claims in an after-final amendment in the parent divisional case. Applicants have elected to proceed with prosecution of these claims through the current continuation application.

Conclusion

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, please contact the undersigned at 404.954.5040.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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